

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRASIL 05714 111514Z

64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ERDA-05 OES-03 SAJ-01 NRC-05 EB-07

COME-00 FEA-01 /093 W

----- 016839

R 111450Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 293

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 5714

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, BR

SUBJECT: FONOFF OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON NUCLEAR PROGRAM

1. DURING SOCIAL GATHERING JULY 8 DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN MINISTRY
BASIC PRODUCTS DIVISION, SERGIO BATH, RAISED SUBJECT
OF GOB/FRG ACCORD WITH EMBASSY ECONO OFFICER WITH THE COMMENT
THAT US SHOULD BE MORE CONCERNED WITH ARGENTINE NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT
RATHER THAN BRAZIL'S PROGRAM BECAUSE ARGENTINA "IS
THE COUNTRY THAT WILL BE THE FIRST IN LATIN AMERICA TO SET
OFF A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION BECAUSE THE ARGENTINES NEED SOME
DRAMATIC ACTION TO REGAIN THE PRESTIGE THEY HAVE LOST BECAUSE
OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS". BATH SAID US NEED NOT BE
SO CONCERNED OVER BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM BECAUSE IT WOULD
BE 10 TO 12 YEARS BEFORE BRAZIL WOULD ACQUIRE NATIONAL TECHNOLOGICAL
CAPACITY, DERIVED FROM GERMAN ASSISTED PROGRAM,
THAT WOULD ALLOW BRAZIL ACCESS TO NON-SAFEGUARDED PLUTIONIUM.
HE SAID IT WOULD BE 15 TO 20 YEARS BEFORE BRAZIL COULD EXPECT
TO HAVE A NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE CAPABILITY AND THAT, BY THAT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BRASIL 05714 111514Z

TIME, A LARGE NUMBER OFCOUNTRIES WOULD HAVE AN EXPLOSIVE

CAPABILITY AND BRAZIL WOULD JUST BE ONE MORE MEMBER OF THE EXPANDED NUCLEAR CLUB.

2. BATH COMMENTED THAT ARTICLES IN BRAZILIAN PRESS PLAYING UP US RESENTMENT OVER LOSS OF COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS FOR NUCLEAR PROGRAM (WHICH HE DID NOT DENY WERE OFFICIALLY INSPIRED) WERE UNFORTUNATE, AND HE SAID GOB IS WELL AWARE THAT US CONCERN CENTERS ON POSSIBILITY THAT BRAZIL WILL EVENTUALLY GET ITS HANDS ON UNPROTECTED PLUTONIUM.

3. COMMENT: BATH HAS BEEN DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATION OF NUCLEAR AGREEMENT WITH GERMANY. DURING CONVERSATION HE READILY ADKNOWLEDGED LIKELIHOOD THAT BRAZIL WILL EVENTUALLY ACQUIRE NUCLEAR EXPLOSVE CAPABILITY AND REFLECTED GENERAL BARZILIAN VIEW THAT NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION IS INEVITABLE AND THAT ACQUISITION OF EXPLOSIVE CAPABILITY IS A SINE QUA NON FOR MAJOR POWER STATUS.
CRIMMINS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES, NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BRASIL05714
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750240-0901
From: BRASILIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750761/aaaaccpy.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <07 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FONOFF OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON NUCLEAR PROGRAM
TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, BR, (BATH, SERGIO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006